

# ORAL HYGIENE



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# ORAL HYGIENE

## A JOURNAL FOR DENTISTS

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### A SUGGESTION

H. E. TOMPKINS, D.D.S., New York City

The writer presents some novel ideas and he would like to learn your opinion of the same. His address is 2105 Seventh avenue, New York City.

It is admitted that the Harrison Bill has entered a wedge in the taxation proposition whereby it may become possible for the government to tax all individuals for living, breathing and working. Then, too, it may make it real hard for the poor dope fiends to get the 'hop' to satisfy their cravings. That, however, is possible but not absolutely assured, for God only knows how many professional men there are, who for the sake of a dollar will give anyone a prescription on demand.

In New York the state and city drug laws are mighty drastic. Why, you can't buy, I mean an honest man can't buy, a flake of cocaine nor any of its derivatives. And a dentist has as much trouble getting the stuff as an honest man. I know of dozens of dentists whose prescriptions are not honored by druggists and who are almost unable to get cocaine for their work. Yet, 'snow' is to be had plen-

tifully by the wise ones.

If the 'snow-birds' have any trouble getting the 'fluff' they can get as much novocaine as they want. And, novocaine is thought to be as virtuous and harmless as a new born babe. But, is it? Herman Metz worked hard and well in his fight against the villainous cocaine, but he never did say that he was the president of a company selling novocaine, nor was that substance ever spoken of. So, novocaine was allowed to stay on the free list. He is working just as hard now, and it looks as if it will be as successfully to keep it on the Government's free list.

But, be that as it may, the Harrison Law is a step in the right direction, not because it controls the narcotic situation but because it shows that Government control can apply to many other things than has been suspected heretofore. It places the burden of control upon the Internal

Revenue Department and all must admit that its control is not slight nor cursory. We all know of the romantic situations arising from the Revenue's efforts to handle the "moonshine" stills. We know, too, that it was eminently successful in its efforts.

Why then, would it not be better to place the examination, licensing and registration of all physicians, dentists and pharmacists in the hands of a Government division under the control of the Internal Revenue Department?

What is more shameful than to read in our daily papers that there are two thousand illegal practitioners of dentistry in New York? Why does such a condition obtain? Why should it be permitted to continue? Can it be controlled?

Assuming that the requirements for legal practice in New York are practically general or at least equal to those of other States, we will take New York as a criterion.

It is required that a person to be eligible to the lawful practice of dentistry shall have a necessary preliminary education of certain dimensions; that a regular course at some reputable dental school shall have been attended and completed to graduation; that a fee of \$25 shall be paid and an examination shall have been taken and passed with a given percentage, then the individual shall be entitled to a State license which must be re-

corded in the county in which he intends to practice or does at any rate practice his profession. Up to this point the law is very good. But from here on it gets worse to putridity. First, it does not say just what shall constitute the practice of dentistry and second and greatest, it says the State Society may hunt up violations at its own expense and when the case against a culprit is complete with prima facie or circumstantial evidence, the district attorney may be called upon to prosecute. If conviction is obtained, of the penal fine imposed upon the scoundrelly 'scab' the 'Union' (pardon me, I mean the Society) may collect fifty percent with which to defray its expense of detection and conviction. Otherwise the expense incurred becomes a dead loss.

It seems strange that while a prison term is offered as an alternative to a fine, it is not often imposed, probably because no return is had to the Society.

Illegal practice, obtains then, because its prosecution is entirely in the hands of the Society and no means are provided for the apprehension of such practitioners. It is worked out somewhat along this line; The Society appoints a committee to take care of this work and tells this committee to get out and hustle. Remember, the committee has no funds with which to work, so it goes to work with funds provided from the private pocket books of its



members. Considering the work done and the money available, the results are truly phenomenal.

Accusations have been made down around New York Town that a certain amount of graft exists. That is to be expected, for there are two factions warring upon illegal practice and each other. One side claims that certain so-called detectives have accepted certain emoluments at stated intervals from illegal practitioners who have, as a result, been guaranteed protection. If that be true, it is as easy to be an illegal dentist as to be a legalized practitioner. Howls have arisen from certain factions acclaiming that members of the committee of the State Society are in on the graft. The statement has not been made definitely, yet it has been allowed to obtain inferentially. Maybe it is true and maybe it is not. Personally I know nothing about it. The inference has been directed especially at Dr. Wm. Carr, than whom I know no better man nor one more above reproach, nor one who has spent more time and personal funds in this work. True, it is, Dr. Carr is humanly human. Dr. Carr has made mistakes and no doubt is making them daily, but that is human and no human of whom I know, other than the Pope is infallible.

The second reason for the illegal practice of dentistry then, is the dissension among the societies who fight each other and gain little. The

substance of this reason is the lack of positive control of the situation by any except practically private corporations or individuals.

Suppose you know or hear that a man in your locality is not legally qualified to practice. You report this fact to the Committee. Word comes back, secure good legal evidence against this chap and we will prosecute him. Will you go out and dig up evidence against this or any other man? I doubt it. You would let him go along in his own way. A third reason, then, for the existence of illegal practice is the complacency of the members of the profession.

A possible fourth reason may be found if the allegation that some of the so-called detectives accept pay for protection be sifted and facts be uncovered. I do not know this to be true, I offer it as a possibility.

Should the illegal practice of dentistry or any other profession, for that matter, be allowed to continue? I wonder, if you would ask your patients to call on Jones, an illegitimate, under any circumstances? No, you would not. Why? Because you would feel that Jones did not know whereof he did. The lack of education for his work would unfit him for that work. It's true, of course, we have many poor operators among the legal practitioners. But, they, at least, have made an effort to prepare themselves for the duties they endeavor to per-

form. And, while it would be far better if they were doing something else, they have satisfied all legal requirements and are mentally equipped with a good theoretical knowledge, at least. These we must have with us always or until such time as the poor unsuspecting public shall discover that they are really incompetent and thus shall lay them on the shelf. But the illegitimate with few exceptions, hasn't even a working knowledge. He possibly has stood at the chair and watched you put in fillings, he may have helped to extract teeth, he may have made a plate or two or possibly he has done odd jobs around the office. Is that man properly prepared to take the life of a patient in his hands and do with as he knows not?

I hear a large chorus saying—"No," and, its right.

Now, can this condition be controlled? Yes. It can.

It can be controlled if some men with presence enough will introduce a bill in Congress requiring that those who shall come after shall enter and pass an examination prepared by qualified Government officials; that each applicant shall show proper proficiency in practical work as well as in theory; that those who are legally qualified to practice now in the various States shall be transferred to the Government roll; that a definition of the practice of a profession shall be promulgated which

shall be fool-proof so far as illegal practitioners are concerned; that the regulation of the practice of a profession shall be placed in the hands of the Internal Revenue department; that a yearly registration be established; that, if need be, a yearly license fee be extracted which may help defray expense of the regulation and necessary inspection; that the penal fines for unqualified practice shall go to the department to help further defray expenses and thus remove a large bone of contention as to just how the monies resulting from penalties shall be divided. In fact the bill should contain provisions that will afford a means of regulation that will be real regulations and that shall have the dignity, at least, of Government sovereignty behind it as well as the power to enforce it.

It is axiomatic and admittedly true that government work is practically free from graft and that when the Government sets forth to do a given thing that thing is accomplished quickly and surely. If its machinery is once started, it stops only when the work is done.

Such an arrangement will tend to create a fear in the minds of illegitimates causing them to think twice before embarking in a profession. It will place legal practitioners in a position wherein they may transfer from one locality to another without the hardship of undergoing an examination. It

will assure the public of qualified men in the professions. It will set up a uniform standard for the practice of a profession and thus do away with considerable red tape as well as raise the standard of the American professional in the eyes of foreign countries. It will insure the prosecution of any illegitimate practitioner in any local-

ity for the report you turn in, be it either hear-say or direct evidence, will be investigated by Government agents much the same as the "moon-shine" still is handled today. It will mean a larger practice for the legal practitioner for it will force out the illegimates who are said to comprise over twenty per cent. of the dentists in the United States.



## BUGS IS BUGS

F. C. MOORE, D.D.S., Perry, Oklahoma

Say, Bill, did you read in the paper, how your mouth is a dirty old place,  
 With its slime and the trash you throw in there, whenever you go feed yer face?  
 Where the bugs raise their families in millions, and mosey around for their keep,  
 A livin' like stock in a pasture, a darn sight thicker'n sheep?  
 Did you know there's folks use a tooth-brush as high as three times a day,  
 A scrubbin' and scourin' their grinders a gittin' them bugs washed away?  
 Well,—goldurn my stubble-faced picture, this ornery old pie-chest of mine,  
 Ain't never been scrubbed with a tooth-brush, my grinders have always been fine;  
 But if bugs such as these fellers talk of, are rantin' around in my face,  
 I'm sure goin' to get good and busy and give 'em a mighty fast race.  
 With soda and salt and SOME scrubbin', I'll clean up the whole family's mugs,  
 I never did like crawlin' critters, to me BUGS was always just BUGS.

## MOUTH HYGIENE JINGLES

JAMES D. BENEDICT, Glen Ridge, N. J.

While editor of the *Dental Dispensary Record*, we published a lot of these jingles and there was a decided difference of opinion as to whether or not they were worth while. The teachers in a Canadian school were very outspoken in their disapproval of "spoiling" Mother Goose and her jingles. They may sound foolish and I don't know as they are a good example of poetry as she is writ, but the children delight in them. I have found them copied in newspapers all over the country and I believe they are of educational value to the children. Mr. Benedict was the author of many of these jingles and he has favored me with a second crop. If these meet with your approval, I have others.

Bah, bah, black teeth,  
Have you any ache?  
Yes, sir, plenty, whenever I eat  
cake.

One tube of dental cream, one  
brush so nice  
Used twice a day will fix you in  
a trice.

\* \* \*

Higglety, Pigglety, one black  
tooth

Soon means a mouthful—that's  
the truth.

Rigglety, Jigglety, brush them all  
clean

And 'you'll be the prettier—see  
what I mean?

\* \* \*

Daffy-down-dilly is just come to  
town

In bright yellow petticoat and a  
green gown;

She's the prettiest maiden that  
ever was seen

With a bright, jolly smile show-  
ing teeth white and clean.

\* \* \*

Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have  
you been?

I've been to London to see the  
Queen;

Pussy cat, pussy cat, what did  
you see?

The Queen brushing her teeth—  
a wise lady is she.

\* \* \*

Humpty Dumpty sat in the chair;  
He had a toothache—that's why  
he was there;

But all the king's dentists—

It's true what I say—

Can't put back a tooth that is  
spoiled by decay.

I have a little tooth-brush,  
Its name is "Make 'Em Shine."  
I clean my teeth both night and  
morn,

There's no toothache for mine.

\* \* \*

One and one are two,  
Your teeth are meant to chew.

Two and two are four,  
You should clean them o'er and  
o'er.

Three and three are six,  
Or else they'll play you tricks.

Four and four are eight,  
Soon it will be too late.

Five and five are ten,  
And you can't begin again.

\* \* \*

Where, oh, where has your tooth-  
ache gone,

And where, oh, where can it be?  
I clean my teeth now at night and  
morn

And there's no more toothache  
for me.

\* \* \*

FEE fye—Fee foy—

I smell the breath of a dirty boy;

Be he rich or be he poor,

Such things I will not endure.

Unless of his teeth better care  
he does take,

I am sure he will have the tooth-  
ache.

\* \* \*

Handy Spandy, Jack-a-Dandy,  
Loves plum cake and sugar  
candy;

But he'll have no teeth to eat  
what's good

If he doesn't clean them as he  
should.

BOBBY SHAFTO'S gone to sea,  
Silver Buckles at his knee.  
He'll come back and marry me,  
Pretty Bobby Shafto.

Bobby Shafto's plump and fair,  
Sound and clean his white teeth  
are.

He'll keep them so for ever more,  
Pretty Bobby Shafto.

\* \* \*

POLLY FLINDERS sat among the  
cinders,  
Cleaning her teeth with all her  
might.

Her mother came and caught  
her,

And praised her little daughter,  
For keeping her teeth so nice and  
white.

\* \* \*

SING a song of sixpence,  
A pocket full of rye,  
Twenty little dirty teeth  
In Johnny's mouth—oh, fie!

Johnny got a tooth brush,  
Kept them white and clean,  
Then he looked so nice,  
He was rewarded by the  
Queen.

\* \* \*

A, B, C, Tumble-down D,  
Keep your teeth clean if healthy  
you'd be.

\* \* \*

Bobby Shafto's gone to sea,  
His teeth are white as they can  
be;

He'll come back and marry me,  
Pretty Bobby Shafto.

Bobby Shafto's brave and strong,  
He chews his food both well and  
long;

Neglecting teeth he knows is  
wrong,

Pretty Bobby Shafto.

\* \* \*

Tom, Tom, the river's son,  
Stole a pig and away he run.  
He wanted bristles a brush to  
make,

To brush his teeth so they  
wouldn't ache.

THERE was an old woman who  
lived in a shoe,  
She had many children but she  
knew what to do.

She gave them their suppers of  
nice milk and bread,  
And cleaned all their teeth ere  
she sent them to bed.

\* \* \*

See-saw, Margery Daw, Jennie  
shall have a new master.

Her teeth are not clean—they're  
stained black and green

And they ache so she cannot  
work faster.

\* \* \*

Jack Spratt could eat no fat,  
His wife could eat no lean;  
The reason was they'd lost their  
teeth

'Cause they didn't keep them  
clean.

\* \* \*

The Queen of Hearts she made  
some tarts,

All on a summer's day.

The Knave of Hearts he stole  
those tarts

And took them quite away.

But when he ate those tarts so  
sweet

His teeth did jump and pain.

He's failed to clean them as he  
should,

But he never will again.

\* \* \*

"LITTLE TOMMY TUCKER, sing for  
your supper."

"What shall I sing for?" "White  
bread and butter."

"How can I chew it, my teeth are  
so bad?"

"Get a brush and clean them, my  
dear little lad."

\* \* \*

There was a man in our town  
Who was so wonderous wise;

He said that Oral Hygiene

Was just a pack of lies.

But when his teeth began to go  
He changed his little tune,

And now he always scrubs his teeth  
At morning, night and noon.

## EVOLUTION OF THE IMPRESSION AND THE MATERIAL

SAMUEL G. SUPPLEE, New York City, N. Y.

All of us have used modeling composition to some degree in the past but placed our main reliance on plaster. It was not until Dr. Greene demonstrated his method of using this material and that our technique had been most faulty, that it has been accepted as equal if not superior to plaster of paris for impression making. It would seem that we must revise our early opinion of modeling compound. Used properly the results are surprising in many cases.

"The operation was a success, but the patient died" has been the standing joke on the medical profession for many years, yet these many successful failures have only spurred our leading surgeons on with the grim determination to make the failures their stepping stones to success, knowing full well that something was not right.

The impression stuck like grim death, but the plate made from it was a failure is a common by-word among dentists, and there are few dentists who have made plates to any extent who have not had this experience. Owing to the fact that practically all colleges indorse plaster of paris as an impression material, and the manipulations and hardening qualities indicate that it must be right is the reason why the average dentist has been trying to solve the mystery by studying closely all the steps following the impression.

Not being able to discover them to his entire satisfaction, he has decided that plate work was a delusion and a snare and why waste time. Hence plate work has been shunned.

If a plate seemed to fit well when he tests it, and the patient complains that it is useless for masticating or talking, it is then he decides the trouble is in the patient and not in the plate, and requires no more investigation.

Now a few moments of careful thought will convince you that both the plaster as well as the method of taking it is wrong.

The impression is taken with the mouth open using a cup larger than the finished plate, thus the buccal and labial attachments are stretched out of the position they will take when masticating. The soft palate being distended, affects a large area of movable soft tissue that precedes it, and as a result you are taking an impression for a plate with the mouth open using a fluid like material, and expecting the patient to wear the denture made from it with the mouth closed and under the biting stress that is characteristic of that particular patient.

Excellent results have been secured in many cases by the use of modelling compound in connection with a small cup, using the muscles to trim

the margins with the mouth open while holding the tray with the fingers.

This method was a step of many years in advance, but unfortunately many of the plates made from this method proved only temporarily successful. The reasons for which will be more readily understood when you have gone more deeply into the question of taking an impression with the mouth closed and under normal biting pressure.

The importance of an impression with the mouth closed appeals to almost everyone as soon as it is called to their attention, but few can realize the importance or advantage gained by equalization of pressure on the hard and soft tissue when under normal biting pressure until they have experienced the comfort in their own mouth or have heard the patient try to describe it.

Once a patient experiences this sensation of fit all over, you could not persuade him into a plaster impression with the mouth open.

Now, if plaster is not the material, what should be used?

If the impression with the mouth open and finger pressure is not the correct way, why take it with the mouth closed and under biting stress.

These are two very logical questions and I shall try to answer them in their order.

#### THE MATERIAL.

The proper material is a

modeling compound, but not every modeling compound. We must have certain qualities in our modeling compound for taking impressions of tissue; and to my knowledge there are only three manufacturers out of the many who make a material that is suitable for the purpose. First, we must have a compound that softens to almost a flowing state in water not over 160 deg.

It must be very smooth and void of the gum like consistency characteristic of the material produced by some of our prominent manufacturers.

It must set hard and quickly and maintain its hardness at the temperature of the mouth. We must have a material that will soften readily over a direct flame without becoming granular when setting.

The material must be placed in the mouth at different consistencies, depending upon whether the tissues are firm, or soft and flexible, muscles weak and active or strong and definite in their movement. Hence diagnosis of your case in hand is of first importance.

An apparatus to secure these results and control the temperature is vital.

The fact that no one has attempted to construct an apparatus to secure these results is the reason why modeling compound has not been giving the results that is possible for it to attain.

Our leading authorities



have acknowledged that modeling compound gives the best results in certain types of cases where plaster fails. The only reason they have not been able to get results in all cases is because they have not given sufficient thought to the necessary apparatus and the technique for controlling conditions.

Modeling compound naturally hardens on the surface before it hardens underneath, and to get the best results it must be controlled so that it will harden underneath or on the surface as desired.

In order to control it, it is absolutely necessary to have an apparatus that will maintain your compound at a given temperature, ready for your immediate use and water at another temperature in which to mould the material you are using.

By observing the natural law of hot water rising to the surface and cold water sinking to the bottom, we are able to construct a simple apparatus that will give us these temperatures.

The apparatus consists of an electric or gas unit suspended in the surface water of a pan. The winding of the electric unit is such that it is capable of creating three distinct heats. By turning it on full, it will bring the water to a 212 deg. and when the surface is boiling, the bottom will still be below 130 deg.

By stirring the water in the entire pan up, it will create a uniform temperature of about 160 deg. By turning the

switch off too low, it will maintain the surface to 160 deg. and the bottom will cool off till it is at or below 140 deg.

The gas unit is controlled by a thermostat.

Now, what does this mean to us?

If modeling compound lies in water of not over 150 deg. for ten minutes or more, it will lose some of its stickiness and at the same time work more smoothly.

The modeling compound most adaptable for our work is in its best conditions for inserting into the mouth when heated in water 160 deg. Compounds can lie in water of 140 deg. temperature for eight to ten hours without spoiling; but it will deteriorate materially if left for an hour in water of over 160 deg.; if put in boiling water, it will be spoiled in about two minutes.

Hence we can leave our compound in the cold water in the bottom of the pan, and when needed we can reach in with a glass spatula and get the amount desired and mold it in the hot surface water ready to insert it into the mouth.

Our heating apparatus is of great value as a reducer of temperature, for in many instances we are compelled to heat the compound over a direct flame and to a temperature far beyond the scalding point. Yet by dipping it in the surface water of our pan, we will reduce the temperature of the compound so that



we can pass it directly into the mouth without the least danger of burning, and with the positive assurance that it is at the right molding temperature.

You can secure these same results by the use of various simple methods such as pans with extension lips under which flame is placed, or a steam tube in the surface of the water, etc., etc., but none of these are as positive of giving good results as the suspended electric or gas unit.

#### THE METHOD.

To answer the second question, you have merely to appeal to your own sense of reasoning or take an impression with the mouth open. Then take one with it closed and note the difference.

By observing the formation of the buccal and labial border, you will note that when the mouth is open, the attachments are drawn diagonally across the buccal and labial border in the direction of the tuberosity.

If you take an impression with the mouth closed abnormally and the lips thrown forward, these same attachments will be drawn over the buccal and labial border in the direction of the canine and centrals showing conclusively that the buccal and labial attachments move forward as the mouth closes.

Now what does this mean to a plate wearer?

It explains why so many plates seem to fit with the mouth open, yet the patient

will tell you he cannot use them.

As soon as the patient closes, the attachments move forward and carry the plate with them, so that when the masticating position is assumed, the plate does not fit to the existing conditions.

If the muscular movement is not sufficient to throw the plate, in a few days, it will have rubbed backward and forward over the margin so many times that it will cut or chafe and compel the dentist to reduce the rim.

When this has been done, you have eliminated almost all of the bearing outside of the ridge and the triturative movement is toward the side. Hence you have created a lever out of your plate, in which the vault is the fulcrum, and the usefulness of the plate to the patient will depend entirely on how large an area the plate covers, for your so-called suction will depend upon how much you have relieved the extreme hard points and how much of the mouth's surface is in uniform contact with the plate.

It is here we must consider another change between the mouth open and closed, and I might say more radical than in the buccal and labial border.

When the mouth is opened wide, the soft palate is distended and draws or changes practically all of the movable or soft tissue overlaying the rear half of the vault. This change is so decided that the average plate made from a

plaster impression with the mouth open, has a space under the rear third of the plate varying from the thickness of a cardboard to  $\frac{3}{16}$  of an inch. It is this space that causes nausea.

Nausea is due to the tickling sensation caused by the vibration of the soft tissue underneath or over the edge of an ill-fitted denture.

If this space is filled up so that the edge will be imbedded into the soft tissue, there will be no nausea regardless of the length of the plate.

To sum up in a few words: if our impression is taken with the mouth closed and under biting stress, it will fit best when in that position. When the mouth is opened, the buccal and labial attach-

ments will want to move toward the rear and will throw the plate back against the ridge and will draw over the margin at the same time the muscles of the soft palate are drawing the soft tissue over the posterior margin of the plate; and in this way the tighter the muscles and tissues draw over the edge of the plate, the better the plate holds up.

We can eliminate leverage entirely and make our plate fit as well outside of the ridge as in the vault.

Our denture made from an impression of this kind will fit best when in use, and to get the final judgment ask the patient and you will get an answer that will leave no doubt in your mind.



Free Dental Dispensary, Erie, Pa.

## OUR NEW DENTAL DISPENSARY

GRANT SMOCK, D.D.S., Erie, Pa.

A good account of the establishment of a free dental dispensary in a small town and how these dentists went about it to accomplish results.

A dinner consisting of good filling materials and excellent mouth washes was served in the Shrine Club of Erie to the local Dental Society, on October 14th, to celebrate the successful opening of the dental dispensary for school children. Dr. Grant Smock presided.

The guests of honor, Dr. Ira Bush, superintendent of public schools, and Dr. Treadway, were the speakers of the evening.

The history of this movement to establish a dispensary in Erie dates back four years. At that time the Erie Dental Society, after much effort, succeeded in raising \$700.00. The school board, however, gave them no encouragement, the public became apathetic, and the dentists themselves were not united. It was decided to return the funds to the donors and start a campaign to educate the public to a realization of the necessity of a free dispensary.

Talks on the subject were given before different societies, and a lecture by Dr. Hunt, with oral hygiene lessons shown by the moving picture film, was given to a crowded audience in the high school. This lecture cost the Erie dentists \$384, \$234 of which was paid out of the

treasury. A change in the personnel of the school board soon helped to revive hope in the project. Some months ago the board inquired as to how much service the Erie Dental Society could devote to a dispensary. A special meeting was called and it was seen that its members were with the movement.

A sum of money was appropriated by the Board of Education and the many details were worked out by a committee of dentists consisting of Dr. Grant Smock, Dr. Harley Ackerman and Dr. Jack Horner, ably assisted by



"The Road to Happiness"  
(Photo by M. L. Green, Morriston, N. J.)

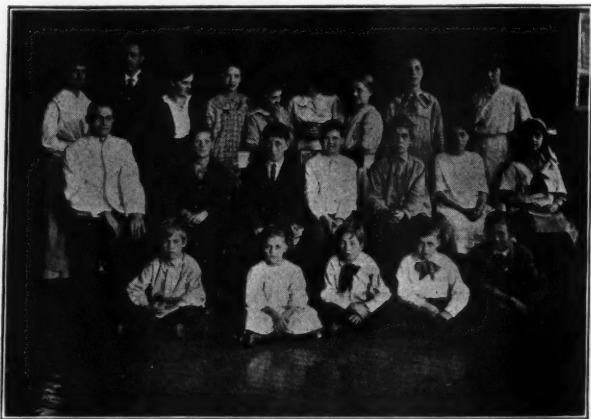
Dr. George Kalb, Dr. Treadway, medical school inspector, and Prof. Bush. Among the donations secured by the dentists was a part of their outfit from Lee S. Smith & Son, of Pittsburgh; a large supply of drugs from Adams & Streubner and a large assortment of tooth brushes from A. W. Wingerter, of Erie. That the new school superintendent, Prof. Ira Bush, is alive to the fact that this dispensary is along the line of real economy was demonstrated by his remarks. Prof. Ira Bush said: "That mastication depends upon good teeth. That digestion depends upon good mastication. That assimilation depends upon good digestion. That nutrition depends upon good assimilation. That good health depends upon nutrition, and public school efficiency depends upon the health of the children."

The defective teeth of the school children cost the taxpayers of this city thousands of dollars annually. It is estimated that it costs \$30 to keep a pupil in a school a year. Then considering the time some of the children are held by the need of dentistry; the expense in this department of the city government runs up into enormous figures.

It is hoped the volunteer service will not be required by the school board for more than a year, until then Erie dentists must bear the burden gratuitously.

Dr. Harry Ackerman had charge of the opening day, when 26 youngsters presented themselves for treatment.

One healthy looking Swedish lady insisted that her "young" had such bad teeth he could not "domesticate" his food.



Patients of the Erie Free Dental Dispensary

## A SOUTH AMERICAN DENTAL DISPENSARY

DR. G. A. PINEDA, Bogota, Columbia, S. A.

The following is the substance of a letter recently received by the editor in reply to an inquiry addressed to the writer. These men appear to be delivering the goods and with little or no encouragement. Write him a letter and send the dispensary a small token of your appreciation.

I received your esteemed letter January 19th, and am much pleased in giving you the information requested regarding our society, "*La Sociedad Propagandista de Higiene Dental de Bogota.*"

It was founded in 1910, the anniversary of our Independence, by Dr. Paulo E. Herran, the actual President. It has about twenty active members living in this city, others in nearly all the departments of Columbia, and a few honorary members in different parts of the world.

Our principal object is to elevate the professional level of dentistry in this country (at present in a bad condition) owing to several causes, among them defective dental laws; to teach oral hygiene in the public schools and in other places; and to furnish free dental services in same.

Thus far we have accomplished the following:

Public lectures 79,—teeth extracted 1,950,—fillings of amalgam and cement 1,256,—buccal diseases treated 71,—All of which has been done without expense to the public schools of this city.

We have received no encouragement at all from the clergy or laity in general but notwithstanding we have continued the work. In fact, the only recognition we have had is the nomination of some of the members as school inspectors, *Ad Honorem*, and the offer of two rooms to work in, one of them having no water at all and impossible to do any dental work in for this reason.

Each one of the members gives a small monthly fee to support the clinics, each one gives one old or new dental instrument for same, as well as some dental materials. No one but the members have given a penny for this work. Neither the parents or the children seem interested and sometimes not even the teachers.

A great many boys do not keep their engagements and do not allow us to do the work. Nearly the same could be said of the children's parents. In a word we have not any encouragement in our enterprise. But no matter, we have tried to do our best.

Kindly please state to all dental manufacturers that any new dental goods or ma-

terial sent as a sample for trying will be welcome and our members will use it in the free dental clinics of this city. It may be addressed to our society, P. O. Box, 209.

Knowing you are one of the enthusiasts of oral hy-

giene, we have elected you an honorary member of our society.

We publish a monthly dental magazine "Revista Odontologia." I have the pleasure of sending you by separate cover our last number.

## TAKING BACK OF OLD EQUIPMENT IN PART PAYMENT FOR NEW

A. C. ROBERTSON, General Manager,  
E. L. Washburn & Company, Inc., New Haven, Conn.

This is one of a series of articles by members of the dental trade on subjects of mutual interest. In every case the editor had to go after these men and all most force them to present their thoughts. For the next few months there will be articles of this nature. I am curious to learn how you differ or agree with the man who sells you dental supplies. Come back as hard as you please.

It is a well recognized fact that all of us at some time or other, feel that our vocation in life is just a little worse than the other fellow's, but when we consult the other fellow, he usually accuses us of having some peculiar form of insanity and claims that his selection was a big mistake and had he adopted some other line he would have made a howling success.

However, in my opinion, it is a safe bet that if the fellow who first swapped a new dental outfit for an old one that had been in use from anywhere from ten to forty years, for which he had made an allowance that was considerably in excess of its value, could be encased in asbestos and brought back to this earth and put on trial before a jury composed of unbiased and unprejudiced merchants,

the unanimous verdict would be, go back "to."

The inconsistency of the custom, when one takes time to make a deep analysis of the situation, is so ridiculous and unbusinesslike that to the writer at least, it is entitled to serious consideration, not so much to the dealers as to the dentists themselves.

We often hear of a man who has owned a horse for a number of years and for which he has formed so much attachment that he refuses to sell him and will either have him shot or pay his board year after year in order that he may live out his natural life and not be subject to possible punishment at the hands of some stranger. This is also true of dogs, birds, cats, etc., but did you ever hear of a dentist who has used an engine, chair or cabi-

net for fifteen or twenty years, that has helped him to make a satisfactory living and possibly lay by a sufficient amount to make him independent, form a similar attachment? Personally, I never have, but why should it not be the same? The importance to him is far greater than any consideration he could have for his animal friends, however loyal they may have been.

We only too frequently hear of dentists complaining of one of their competitors who puts in gold crowns at four or five dollars, or charges one dollar for a cement filling, or make some similar criticism of low prices, but they never stop to consider that when they themselves fitted up their first office their equipment cost them from one to two thousand dollars. This they used for ten to twenty years, then decided to re-equip, turned in their old outfit to their dental supply house and were allowed possibly from one to two hundred dollars for it. The dealer spent from ten to fifteen dollars on this old equipment and resold it to some ambitious young dentist in the immediate vicinity of the original owner for say \$250, so that the new owner was launched in business at about 85 per cent. less than our original friend.

Assuming that the man who had paid \$2,000 for the equipment in the first place, bought it on time payments and paid at the rate of 10 per

cent. down and 10 per cent. a month and dentist No. 2 was accorded the same terms, one can see at a glance that our No. 2 friend has it all over No. 1, and as all business must be based on overhead charges, No. 2 is in a position to do just as good work as No. 1 and make his charges considerably less, so that if the dentists instead of turning in their old equipment would consign it to the scrap heap or donate it to some kindergarten school, it would force their competitors to meet them on an equal basis and go a long ways toward eliminating cut rates.

This would also eliminate the faker who makes a business of equipping offices with second-hand furniture (which the dealer is always only too glad to get rid of), and after three or four months' occupancy he advertises the office and practice for sale, claiming a four or five thousand dollar practice, and when some prospective buyer shows up, he will find the office crowded to overflowing with patients; it looks so good to him he makes the purchase, paying twenty or so times as much as it is worth; but when he wakes up, he then realizes that he has been handed one and discovers that what he supposed were patients were simply hirelings for the occasion.

The manufacturer of dental equipment is necessarily compelled to charge high prices for his wares for the simple reason that his cost of



doing business is excessive, for all of which some person must settle, and if you will come down to brass tacks, who is this person? You have but one guess: the dentist.

This condition is largely brought about by the second-hand equipment proposition. If this phase of the business was eliminated and every dentist purchased new and unused apparatus, the manufacturer could double his manufacturing facilities and sell his wares at a good deal less than he is now compelled to charge. Incidentally, he would not feel compelled to chase up every prospective buyer of a chair, engine or lathe and suffer an expense of from ten to twenty-five dollars in salary, railroad expenses, etc., etc., etc.

I wonder what would happen to the man who went to his tailor to purchase a new suit of clothes and asked for an allowance on his old one; but if it is good policy in the dental trade to turn in second-hand equipment in part payment for new, why don't we follow it out in all branches of business? Why should it not be proper for a young man recently graduated in dentistry, to decide to locate in New Haven, for instance, and purchase the old equipment of some leading dentist, go to the tailor and purchase the dentist's old clothes, the hatter and get one of his old hats and say to his patients, "I graduated from the same college as Dr. Blank and I now have the same equipment

that he has been using for twenty or so years. I dress and act just as he did but I have an advantage on him. Dentistry has made rapid progress in the last twenty years, and while he was a good man in his day, I am more up-to-date than he. My fees are considerably less than his for the reason that when he bought this equipment, he had to pay about \$2,000 for it, whereas I purchased it for about one-tenth of that amount and have spent about \$25 on it and it is now just as good as new."

Does the logic appeal to you? It certainly seems to me that the matter is worthy of a lot of thought and consideration on the part of the manufacturer, dealer and, above all, the dentist.

In conclusion, the following story may be apropos: A ready-made clothing dealer who, when fitting a suit of clothes on a customer, always remarked: "My friend, it fits you perfectly, and the price, on my honor, is less than cost." After he had been in business for five or six years, an intimate friend of his who was aware of the fact that the merchant had made considerable money, said to him: "Isaac, how is it I hear you tell your customers, 'on my honor, the price is less than cost,' but how have you made so much money?" The merchant replied: "My friend, I tell you in confidence, I buy at less than cost."



## WHY CARE FOR THE TEETH?

DAVID T. PARKINSON, D.D.S., Wichita, Kansas

Read before the Parent-Teachers' Association, College Hill School

While this article presents nothing particularly new, it is very suitable for a mixed audience and may be of help to others of our readers who may be called on to address such a gathering.

Almost every individual has some hobby, some subject in which he is most interested and about which he likes to talk. I am guilty like the rest; my interest naturally centers on teeth. Being so vitally interested I sincerely hope that I may be able to impart some of that interest and enthusiasm to you before the afternoon is past. I am certainly gratified to meet with you, to see so many present, particularly the mothers, who have already shown so much interest in the subject of my talk.

You all may have heard of the two men who were passing a fine residence, commented on its beauty, one man said to the other, "Yes, it is a magnificent building, but you know it was built out of the torment of men, the tears of unfortunate women, and the cries of defenseless children."

"Why," said the friend, "how can that be, what sort of an institution is it?"

"Oh," said the first, "simple enough. It was built by a dentist."

Perhaps the story is true, but in any event the subject of the dentist, and the necessity of trips to his office is not ordinarily contemplated with pleasure, and yet it is to-

day a beautiful dream compared to what it was fifty or even twenty-five years ago.

However, it is not my purpose to extol the dentist, but to try to teach you how to prevent the necessity of visits to his office and to gain for ourselves benefits, physical, mental and financial. To this end I would be glad if, for the time, you would forget that I am a dentist and regard me as one who would present you with the facts of scientific research, as presented to the mind of the laity.

This is a day of study, of research and of coöperation in all walks of life, in all business, in all professions and in all sciences. The thought of personal responsibility for our neighbor is every day stronger than the day before and all men are coming to realize that the answer to the question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" is surely and strongly, "Yes." And so men of education and science are devoting their lives, and men of money are devoting whole fortunes in the interest of those less fortunate. Scarcely can you pick up a daily paper but you find some article in reference to the campaign against tuberculosis, or the discovery of a toxin or anti-

toxin for scarlet fever, typhoid fever, diphtheria, pneumonia, yellow fever or some other dread disease that is sapping the lives of men and women. Great and wonderful have been the results, but the greatest advancement has not been in the cure of these diseases, but in their prevention. During the past twenty-five or thirty years the death rate from typhoid fever has been reduced fifty per cent. In that same time the death rate from diphtheria has been reduced eighty per cent. Yellow fever is scarcely known and tuberculosis is daily decreasing. We can remember the time when if a case was pronounced typhoid or diphtheria, the friends made arrangements with the undertaker right away; and to pass within a block of yellow fever or smallpox was just plain suicide. But today they are hardly more dreaded than some of the so-called simple affections.

What is the secret? Not cure but prevention. Sanitation, cleanliness, soap and water. Simple, isn't it? But it has taken the medical profession nineteen hundred and more years to find it out. And yet they tell us that seventy-two Americans die every hour from preventable diseases. Sanitary measures have been taken to promote clean yards, alleys, streets, houses, bodies, water and food. Little or no thought has been given to the human mouth, which even in a healthy condition is the

greatest of all incubators of pathogenic disease producing germs and which in neglected conditions is foul beyond words, fairly teeming with micro-organisms of the most virulent nature.

When a boy, I often heard people say that in case of rattlesnake bite, if some one with *sound teeth* would suck the poison from the wound immediately, no harm would result, and I wondered why the sound teeth were specified as necessary. Now I know that it was to prevent as bad or worse infection of the one bitten and to prevent the poisoning of the one sucking the wound, for every decayed tooth becomes a natural incubator for all kinds of bacteria and every exposed tooth pulp a place for the absorption of poisons and an opportunity for infections of any nature whatsoever.

The Bible tells us that man was created a perfect being, with a perfect mind, soul and body. It was only when he fell from that high pinnacle of perfection that he became subject to the attacks and activities of destructive influences, either mental or physical. At this late date we cannot expect to restore him to perfection, but we can so nearly approach this that destructive mental influences and disease producing germs will have little effect.

Where shall we begin? Dr. Chas. Mayo says that the greatest field of preventive medicine today is in the hands

of the dentists. Battle Creek Sanitarium says that ninety per cent. of the people who come there for the treatment of digestive derangements owe their condition directly to mouth conditions.

The late Prof. Miller, of Berlin, says that in forty per cent. of all tubercular cases there are centers of infection around diseased teeth, and that the tubercles enter the circulation through decayed teeth.

People with defective teeth are more susceptible to all infectious diseases than are others, and people with decayed teeth and discharging abscesses or "gum boils" are a constant source of danger to themselves. In the past two or three years I have found no less than five or six deaths from blood poisoning reported to me in which the physician in charge said that the initial or primary infection was abscessed teeth.

People breathing the emissions of others affected with decayed and defective teeth, or taking them in by means of borrowed pencils, handkerchiefs, coats, furs, etc., are constantly exposed to infection from tuberculosis, pneumonia, fevers, etc.

During a recent epidemic of scarlet fever in Chicago the children affected were quarantined and not allowed to return to school until well, and the usual precautions taken. Their return was frequently followed by a fresh outbreak of the disease, the

cause of which could not for a long time be determined. Finally the epidemic was stopped by enforcing a regulation that each child having the fever should have its mouth thoroughly cleansed and every cavity of decay filled before returning to school. Other cities have had similar experiences. The St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum in Boston was, one year, quarantined for three months by infectious disease. The ordinary number of cases of contagious disease in a year in the institution being about one hundred. This was reduced to two cases within one year after the establishment of a dental infirmary.

The knowledge of these facts has led to the establishment all over the world of free dental infirmaries for the children of those parents too poor to pay for dental services. These, accompanied with compulsory dental examination of all school children, have led to some very startling discoveries.

Ninety-six per cent. of all children under sixteen years are affected with serious decay of the teeth and other lesions of the mouth and fifty per cent. of the cavities are in permanent teeth. Ninety per cent. of the cavities form between the ages of six and sixteen years, so that among the children is the place to teach mouth hygiene and prophylaxis.

These infirmaries have proven that the correction of

diseased conditions in the mouths of school children will increase their efficiency in their studies from forty to ninety per cent., that it will induce regularity in attendance and improve their character and disposition.

On the 24th of last November there was opened in Boston the Forsyth Dental Infirmary, a two million dollar institution for the care of the mouths of the poor children of that city. A magnificent building and equipment which it was my privilege to see while there sometime ago, and one which in its purpose and conception should make an impression on our people that will influence the entire country.

These are days when efficiency counts in every walk of life and nothing is allowed to stand in its way. So greatly is this true that many large institutions are installing dental equipment and dentists in their industrial plants, for the care of the teeth of their employees. Some plants render this service free of all charge. Others make only a nominal charge for actual expense involved. Not because they love their employees but because they recognize that an employee with the toothache is not one hundred per cent. efficient and is not giving them all that he is capable of giving. Such plants require that every employee attend the dentist regularly, and bring in a certificate of a mouth in good order. They do all kinds

of work particularly with the idea of saving the teeth; crowns, bridges, fillings and inlays.

In such institutions the first question asked of one seeking employment is not for references, but "What is the condition of your teeth?" This is the reason as given by one such manager in New Orleans. His company was competing with others for a big contract and to be sure of landing it he called in his best salesman and sent him out to see the buyer. He returned without getting the contract. When asked for the reason of his failure the salesman said that on the morning which he was to receive an interview he was taken with a violent toothache and that it so occupied his mind and attention that he could not give his best efforts to the business and that he had lost and knew the reason why. That company learned its lesson, that a man with the toothache is not one hundred per cent. efficient, and since that time no man gets employment nor maintains it except his teeth be kept in proper condition.

During the busy Christmas season the head of one of our large stores here called my office for an appointment AT ONCE. When he came he said his hurry was caused by the fact that he had that morning lost two excellent sales because a tooth was troubling him and he couldn't talk business. HE knew he was losing

the sales but was absolutely unable to put the necessary pep into his talk.

Only recently the editor of one of our papers came in a great hurry, he had so many articles to write, but there was a tooth troubling and he must have something done, because he could not think. That tooth occupied his whole mind and it was not a bad tooth either.

When I was a boy in school I frosted my feet one cold, winter season. If you have ever done the same you know their never ceasing torment in a warm room. Well, I went to school and my feet began to burn and tingle and itch. I became cross and irritable, and had to sit on the front seat. When recitation time came I did not know my lesson, and when asked for an explanation I told what was the matter. My teacher had never had such an experience and laughed at me and thought it was a great joke that my feet should keep me from studying, but it was no joke to me. Now if frosted feet should have such an effect on a boy or girl as to make them unable to control either mind or body, diseased and aching teeth will do as much or more, for with the teeth there is not only the constant annoyance of pain, which will surely occupy all one's attention, but there is the added inability to properly masticate the food and the consequent derangement of digestion.

Now if a bad tooth will keep a merchant from making important sales in his business, or will prevent the salesman from landing a contract worth thousands of dollars to his company, or the trained mind of an editor from producing the editorials for his paper, how much greater and worse will be the effect of poor teeth on the mind and disposition of the child in school. We adults are able by force of will to drive our minds and bodies to do their work after a fashion even against the obstacles of pain and lack of nourishment, but we have no right to expect that the child will exert any such power.

Every year, in this country, we spend millions of dollars to secure for ourselves pure air, water and food, the three great essentials to life. Go into Colorado and high up in the mountains, miles from any city, you will find the streams guarded by sign boards everywhere saying, "Don't pollute these waters." You dare not throw paper bags, scraps, nor anything left from your lunch into these streams as they are a part of the water supply to some city, distant though it may be. Our city, state and nation have men constantly employed, examining every kind of food product to keep it free and clean from any contamination, in order that disease, suffering and death may be kept at a minimum. But what good are all these things so long as the food, air

and water have to pass through unclean mouths and be contaminated and mixed at every bite and swallow with all kinds of malicious micro-organisms? There remains only one possible consolation and that is that perhaps they reach our lungs and stomachs unclean with our own uncleanness!

It is not my concern today to tell you how to care for the teeth of the children, but rather to impress upon you all the extreme importance of having them cared for. How it is to be done is a matter for your family dentist. I want you to know and appreciate the value and importance of even a single tooth. We often hear it said that the loss of one tooth cannot make much difference, there are still 31 others to do the work, so one will hardly be missed.

When Uncle Josh went to the dentist one time he asked how many teeth were in the human mouth. The dentist replied "thirty-two."

"How many have you got?" asked Uncle Josh.

"Twenty-eight," replied the dentist.

To which Uncle Josh responded, "Gee, Doc, you're almost human."

And true it is that people with missing teeth are only almost what they should be. A farmer would never think of cutting a field of dollar-and-forty-cent wheat with a machine from which one single tooth was either missing or defective. The loss in un-

cut grain would be much greater than the cost of a new machine. A miller would not continue to run his mill after he knew a single roller was defective. There would be too much loss in the quantity and quality of flour produced. There are many strings to a piano, yet the artist would never consent to an instrument with a single string out of tune. It takes a thousand men to run a railroad, but not a single one of them can be spared without serious loss. And so one cannot lose a single tooth without suffering somewhere in efficiency.

The late Dr. George E. Hunt said, "More bodily ills are due to what we eat, how much we eat and how we eat it than to any other cause." All the long train of digestive disorders from plain stomach-ache to appendicitis, all the diseases of faulty cell life in the body, such as cancer, rheumatism, gout, pyorrhea and a host of other diseases, in fact the great majority of all human diseases may be traced to the same fundamental starting point, the mouth. Digestion begins in the mouth. For this part of digestion to be accomplished perfectly, the food must be thoroughly chewed and mixed with the saliva. This cannot be done unless the teeth are all present and in good condition. Every tooth lost or diseased diminishes the ability of the individual to chew their food properly. If the food is not properly chewed, then diges-

tion is not perfect. If digestion is not perfect then assimilation is not perfect. If assimilation is not perfect, then the individual cannot be in perfect health, and a person in imperfect health must be classed as a defective, as a producer."

Dr. Ebersole, of Cleveland, after years of investigation says that "The correction of faulty and diseased conditions of the mouth will increase the producing power of the individual at least 20 per cent. Now statistics tell us that the average producing power per person in the United States is \$1,700 per year. If we increase this by 20 per cent that is \$340 per year. We have 91,000,000 people in this country; now multiply the 91,000,000 by the \$340 increase and the figures will stagger you.

There are a great many other things that I would like to say concerning the value of the care of children's teeth. I would like to tell of how Germany was the first to take up and establish compulsory dental examination of children; how that many cities in

our own country have adopted compulsory dental examination of school children and have established the free dental infirmaries for the poor and how it has affected the mental and moral conditions of the children. I would like to show how bad oral conditions run parallel with stupidity and degeneracy; how the timid, backward, bashful child usually has bad mouth conditions, and how most of those who neglect the care of the teeth are laggards in school and in business. The reverse also is true, that the competent, energetic, wide-awake leaders in school and business are most particular in the care of their mouths.

There is no disgrace in the display of fillings and crowns but there is a great disgrace in the display of neglected cavities and unclean mouths. Tooth brushes and good dentifrices are not expensive or beyond the means of many who care either for physical comfort or personal charm. And for what these won't accomplish, a very little attention from a competent dentist at the right time will suffice.





## CONCERNING TEETH

MR. HART, Maywood, Ill.

Listen to the cry that is ringing, ringing loudly throughout the  
land,  
From the mounts of icy Greenland, clear to India's coral  
strand;  
Tis a cry that is full of sorrow, and a wail that tells of  
grief,  
And the cause of this commotion is that Hart has lost his  
teeth;  
Now some people at a certain age, begin to lose their hair,  
While a crop of wrinkles others get, are signs of toil and care;  
And the failure of their eye sight, hands to many folks a  
jolt,  
But its hell, oh gentle reader, when your teeth begin to  
moult.  
Your teeth are like your dollars, for they vanish one by one,  
Until at last all food you eat, you have to chew "by gum";  
So on Monday it is hash and soup, on Tuesday soup and  
hash,  
While on Wednesday for chop suey, you may spend your  
ready cash;  
On Thursday you get cereals, on Friday you get fish,  
And on Saturday Spaghetti, that's a sloppy dago dish;  
When Sunday comes it's chicken, that is ground up fine  
and small,  
If it wasn't for that grinder, why you couldn't eat at  
all;  
So you hurry to the dentist, to see what he can do,  
And believe me, you've some mouthful, when that dentist he  
gets through;  
For you don't know where to put your tongue, it gets you  
going South,  
And you can't find room for anything inside your bloom-  
ing mouth;  
So listen to my tail of woe, the swan song of my teeth,  
Which should have been steel plated, or at least that is my  
belief;  
For your "uppers" keep a coming down, your "lowers"  
going up.  
You'd think they were an elevator when you dine or sup.  
And its worse than aggravating, when your food you have to  
bolt,  
For it's hell oh gentle reader, when your teeth begin to moult.



## A RED-HEAD PATIENT

## A SKETCH IN COLORS

JOHN PHILIP ERWIN, D.D.S., Perkasie, Pa.

"They're the salt of the earth, sir, the salt of the earth; that's what they are. My honorable sire said, 'Thank the Lord for the salt,' when my mother proclaimed her philosophy about the red-haired individuals of creation," remarked the druggist upon whom I was bestowing my professional services. To say my patient's hair was red, was merely to state a fact. Its color was glorious.

"Was your mother blessed with——." He, anticipating my question, interrupted me with,

"My mother was noted for her grace and beauty. Tall, broad-shouldered, full chested, possessed of clean-cut limbs and a well-rounded form, she appeared every inch a distinguished personage. Such lips, such mouth and teeth, such lustrous eyes. Her smooth, soft skin and glowing complexion filled your mind with vision of eastern sunsets. Her crown, fit for a queen, was a waving mass of luxuriant red hair; yes, sir, red hair. She was a veritable Cleopatra."

"You must have been very proud of her," I said, continuing to prepare some work. His face fairly shone.

"How could a boy help admiring and loving such a mother? Father idolized and

worshiped her. And folks admired her just the way they do a fine painting or beautiful landscape.

"She was not only lovely, but also brilliant. Father often said that, had she been a man, she would have been president of the country. She possessed wonderful executive ability. At the age of twenty-three she was receiving three thousand dollars a year selling silks in a department store. Before she married, she was the buyer of the department at a big fat salary. 'I'd rather have my little brick-top than be the richest woman in creation,' she often said to me, 'because, son, we're the salt of the earth—and I love you so.'"

"And I just loved her. All through life I have studied the philosophy she taught. I never forgot her lessons."

As I listened to his interesting chat I recalled a remark made by one of my college teachers concerning this subject. I quoted it to my patient.

"Pardon me," I began, "but a certain professor once said, 'Boys, whenever I see a red-head patient enter my office, I throw up my hands and pray, 'Oh Lord, have mercy upon me,' because I have learned by experience how extremely unreliable they have proven, not only by

their fretful conduct in the chair, but also by the behavior of their teeth. I am always anxious to have them patronize my competitor.'"

The effect of this opinion was electrifying.

"If your dental teacher had studied the subject as closely as I have, he never could have expressed such erratic views."

"He was considered a wise man," I ventured.

"Wise, but not about my people. How many wise ones can name the bravest President this U. S. country ever had, the only one not afraid to stand and fight with his bare fists? That man's name was *Andrew Jackson*, a royal member of the brick-top clan.

"How many can name the most famous woman in history? *Cleopatra*, past high queen of the same order.

"Or the greatest actress of all ages? Sarah Bernhardt, another gold-haired queen. Or the greatest prize fighter? Bob Fitzsimmons, also an honorary member. And if you need a few more great names consider, Nero, of Rome; Frederick I of Germany, and William II of England, surnamed Rufus. And to think their blood flows through my veins."

"I believe my teacher referred more to their teeth than to their personal characteristics," I explained.

"I never studied dentistry," he continued, "but I have learned that your profession has overlooked some important facts concerning my peo-

ple. I have been behind the drug counter ten years, and in all that time I have not seen ten customers seek relief for swollen faces from abscessed teeth. I seldom have a red-head buy toothache wax or dope for troublesome molars."

"Do you believe that, as a class, your people have good teeth?" I asked.

"As a rule, yes," he replied.

"The prettiest smiles on earth come from the blondes because of their pretty mouth and teeth. You rarely meet a crooked set of teeth among them; their teeth are usually evenly set. The individuals of this class are solidly built, with a volume of nutrition; they recover quickly from disease and accident, and possess a super-abundance of beauty in mind and body. And their teeth enjoy similar blessings."

I now had begun to excavate an upper lateral tooth preparatory for filling. For some moments I worked in silence. Whether, because of the superficial nerve or the deep decay, the nerve became exposed. I was startled to see a little drop of blood ooze from the bottom of the cavity.

"Does the tooth ache you?" I asked tacitly.

"No, it doesn't ache, but when you press, it hurts a little," he replied.

Other patients were waiting. My time being limited, I decided to postpone the filling until a later visit.

"I will put some medicine in your tooth and at your next visit, kill and remove the

nerve and fill the tooth." I told him as he left the office. Busy at chair I soon forgot the incident.

The following morning, while preparing for the day's work I was surprised to behold Mr. Druggist enter the office. Memories of the exposed nerve and visions of a sleepless night filled my mind with apprehensions.

"Good-morning. Toothache this morning?" as I greeted him. He then told his trouble.

"When I reached home yesterday, that tooth began to growl and fret like a wet kitten. Not a real toothache, but a sense of general dissatisfaction. The very first thing this morning, it began the same song. It seemed to say, 'I don't want to die. I don't want the dentist to kill me.' Then and there I decided that Mr. Nerve was afraid of the grave. I also determined that it should live. And I came early this morning to have you remove the medicine and fill the tooth."

His style of expression amused me. His directions annoyed and irritated me.

"You can't have a filling put over that live nerve and live in peace. The pain would make you frantic. You may be a good druggist, but you don't understand dentistry." I told him emphatically.

"And you don't understand red-heads," flashed his words. "Doctor, that nerve is going to live. You follow my orders. Take out the medicine and fill the tooth. No cement

or black filling, but gold, pure gold—to correspond with my complexion."

When he said gold, I told him to what class of fools he belonged and a few things not fit to print, then proceeded to follow his directions—at his own risk.

"That nerve will kick your red-head off before sunset," I remarked upon the completion of capping and filling the tooth.

"Feels fine now, Doctor," he said in a satisfied tone. "That tooth is good for the remainder of my life. I expect to pass the office this evening. Suppose I stop in and report?" With this he departed.

That evening Mr. Druggist presented himself wearing a glowing smile of conquest. I was a little disappointed. I had expected trouble.

"It's the happiest tooth in my mouth," he smilingly remarked, as we discussed his case. "If you would but study my people you would be surprised at their possibilities. I know we are too 'little understood.'"

I laughingly apologized for the shortcomings of my professional brethren for not having placed his class beneath our microscope. I also admitted that we were sadly deficient in facts concerning the influence of temperaments in dentistry.

"Nothing to it, doctor. The M. D.'s are even more blinded to our characteristics than you dentists." He suddenly

stopped. An idea had presented itself.

"Have you an engagement for this evening?" he asked.

"Nothing more than desk and laboratory work," I replied.

"Then come with me. I will give you a lesson in the science of red-heads. I will also show you fifty of the most miserable beings on earth. A friend of mine is to address the civic committee. He invited me to hear him. Go along and I will finish my lesson."

My work not being urgent I accepted his invitation. I could hardly have anticipated the coming experience. While we walked, he continued his talk.

"Some time ago I was worn down by overwork. When I asked Dr. Jones for advice the first thing he did was to ask to see my tongue.

"I want to see if it is coated," he said.

"Then I told it to him. Who ever heard of a red-head having a coated tongue? I have been looking all my life for a bum tongue among my people and never have seen one. You black-haired individuals are seldom without a bad tongue.

"And Dr. Jones is not the only one. I filled a prescription a few days ago for Dr. Ranch, who prescribed, for jaundice, for a member of my clan. When I saw him I offered to bet a bottle of wine that his patient never had jaundice. And still more, no other red-head ever had

it. But he was unwilling to make the wager."

"Surely, the *big* men in medicine would not make such a mistake," I remarked as we continued our discussion.

To this he gave a hearty laugh.

"When a specialist was called to consult about my mother's illness, he pronounced it a severe case of gallstones. Poor mother laughed aloud in spite of her pain.

"'Gallstones?' she asked. 'Never. Red-headed folks don't suffer from such troubles.' You see, mother had studied her people."

We now had arrived at the club where the friend of Mr. Druggist was to speak. The meeting was in charge of an undersized, dark complexioned, nervous individual. Many of the forty-nine before him were of a similar type.

"Birds of feathers scold together," whispered my companion.

"Some birds," I replied.

Soon the fun began. After the reading of the paper you should have heard the forty-nine rip and snort and kick in their discussion. Everything in creation—trolleys, bath houses, pool-rooms, Sunday concerts, hotels, cards, dancing, politics, all were wrong. They tried to believe God had called them to correct these supposed evils. The druggist was enjoying their antics. He was all smiles.

When Big Bill, his friend, was called upon to close the discussion, he said: "Gentlemen: I have nothing more to offer than thanks for your generous discussion of my paper. Before closing, however, I would like to present to you the only boy I could not whip when at college, although I tried it pretty often. We have always been good friends. He is here this evening. I am going to introduce him to you as I have always known him. Gentlemen, permit me to present my fellow classmate, Reddy Gallagher."

As Druggist Gallagher stepped upon the platform, that righteous bunch laughed, the first laugh of the evening. His red hair did it. That laugh was like the prick of a rapier to a bull; it awoke a storm of fight within him; it made him mad.

"Gentlemen:" he began in a firm voice, muscles on a tension, "I am especially proud this evening of one fact, namely, that I am the *only* red-head among you. If you folks were so blessed above (pointing to his hair) you would be out in the world enjoying the good things God made, instead of wasting your time here damning them.

"If the government be rotten as you claim; if you have discovered graft; if all the office holders are thieves, why not amend the constitution so none but red-heads can hold office. I am sure

*you will never catch one of us stealing.*

"As to liquor, there exists no such evil for my people because we can enjoy a jolly night in Vienna without regrets for breakfast. You bilious reformers are not so fortunate."

The applause this brought forth was unexpected. His voice was now ringing like a bell. Words came as if in song. His earnestness was convincing.

"Hell?" he shouted, "Not for my people. Why? One good healthy red-head below would turn it into a summer picnic. My folks are the happiest beings on earth—and in the world beyond. Remember we never made hell. You blue-gilled gecks alone manufactured Satan and his allies."

"The first thing we learn in life is the *eleventh* commandment—not the first ten. Because we observe it by minding our own business, you find us at the head of gigantic enterprises; we are always welcome in society; we succeed where others fail; and we love the sweet and beautiful world God gave us to live in, and all mankind accordingly." He completed his speech amid a storm of applause. Ten minutes more of such talk would have converted the fifty.

While seated about a table in a cafe, after the meeting, enjoying our lunch and talk, we three lived again the experience of the evening.

"Reddy, old boy," said Big

Bill, as we parted, "you're right. I have the best wife on earth but I never knew why, until this evening. It's because she is a red-head. And still better, we have a husky little boy of the same class, and I'm going to name him Gallagher."

**AUTHOR'S NOTE:**—The above is a type of the sanguine temperament sketched from accepted authorities on eugenics, dentistry, medicine and sociology. To those wishing to further study this interesting temperament I

would suggest, modern works on eugenics: Flagg's, "Dental Pathology and Therapeutics;" George Ebers, "Cleopatra;" The Life of Rufus; Alexander Dumas, "Camille;" (this work is the finest treatment of the sanguine temperament I know) and Churchill's, "Crossing." Few writers display a broader knowledge of this temperament than Shakespeare. His "Kathryn," in "Taming of the Shrew," is rich in material for the student.

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## LECTURES ON ORAL HYGIENE IN THE PUBLIC AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

The dentists of Michigan are working for a law to enable the Health Department of the State to give public lectures to their school pupils as is done in New York State. Senate bill No. 231 is now before the legislature and if passed the lectures are assured. The Governor has publicly expressed his approval of these lectures after hearing Dr. W. A. White of the New York State Health Department deliver his talk before a Michigan audience. If the dentists of Michigan desire this legislation they will do well to get busy and advise their local representatives to this effect. The committee of the State Society on Oral Hygiene Lecturer is composed of Drs. Geo. F. Burke, Detroit; Benj. H. Lee, Grand Rapids, and Frank E. Sharp, Port Huron.

If you have ever served on a committee of this character, you know what a hard and thankless task it is. Get busy, brother dentists of Michigan, and give these men your hearty support. Send a letter at once to your local men of the State Legislature, requesting, aye, demanding support of the Senate bill, No. 231.

## CORRESPONDENCE

## THE INDUSTRIAL DENTAL DISPENSARY

Editor *Oral Hygiene*:

You mention the fact that there are a number of other industrial establishments where dental service is rendered. Will you kindly send me the names of any such that you know of, and any information that you can get as to the character of service rendered; that is, do they render all service necessary free to their employees, or only first aid? I am also very much interested in knowing just how much importance the officials of these companies attach to this work and to what extent they are carrying on welfare work.

Before giving you a description of the dental dispensary in the Goodrich Company, I will give you an idea of what brought about the establishment of this department.

In January, 1914, they began making a physical examination of all employees. They are examined by a doctor, and I will mention one fact, that this has brought out 14 per cent. having hernia. The eyes are tested and they find a great many with poor vision. The doctor also examined the mouths, and found a universally bad condition. After a few months the officials of the company became much concerned over this, and began looking for a way to correct

it. It was a big problem, when you take into consideration the fact that they employ an average of 12,000 people. At last the dental dispensary was established, with the writer in charge.

At present we have two chairs, with complete operating equipment. All new employees are examined and a record made of the mouth condition, and the recommendation made depends on the condition found. If the mouth is clean, no cavities, and well cared for, they are passed with a compliment and advised to keep up the good work. If there are cavities and the teeth need cleaning, they are referred to their own dentist, if they have one; if not, a capable man is selected, and they are required to see him and have the work at least started in thirty days, and be sure their mouth is in good condition when they are called up for another examination.

The only way in which the operation of the dental clinic can result in the discharge of an employee, or the refusal of this company to give work to an applicant, is upon the persistent refusals of the operative to follow the reasonable instructions for the remedy of bad mouth conditions, or the absolute refusal to obey instructions regarding the care of the mouth. In every case



the financial condition of the operative is taken into consideration, and need not be a bar to the meeting of these requirements, as the company will make arrangements in one way or another to make it possible for the operative to meet these requirements without incurring any hardships.

In about thirty days we will start the examination of all employees, and the above idea will be carried out.

All first aid cases are taken care of and the employee referred to a competent dentist to have the work completed, also a certain amount of prophylactic work is done. We will try and do educational work through bulletins issued semi-monthly. These are placed in the pay envelope of the employee. You will find two of these enclosed, also blanks used in the clinic for making records. You will also find enclosed a record of my work done covering the first three weeks of operation.

In the last number of the journal of the National Dental Association, Dr. Corley says: "In Detroit we seem to have an ideal condition of affairs. How can we bring about such a condition in other cities of this country?"

The manufacturer has a right to demand efficiency from the employee. He is paying the employee for his labor and expects it to be well done, but how can he

get it when the employee is suffering with not only a bad mouth, but all the ills we know can be directly traced to bad mouth conditions. The dental profession is overlooking a big field. It occurs to me that instead of trying to educate a lot of politicians, ward heelers, school boards, etc., if they would show the captain of industry these conditions and where it interests him, also show him that he is employing every day boys and girls just out of school, and that these school boards are neglecting their duties as educators in denying the right of good health to these children, you will then have an influence at work that will soon get results.

Doctor, I am very glad to have gotten in touch with you, and hope to hear from you again. If there is any further information I can give, do not hesitate to call on me.

*Oral Hygiene* comes to me regularly and is read with much pleasure. Some time when you are near Akron I would be mighty glad to have you stop off long enough to get acquainted and look over the Goodrich Company dental dispensary, in which I take a great deal of pride.

With kindest regards, I remain Very truly yours,

THE B. F. GOODRICH COMPANY,

Dept. Safety and Hygiene.  
CARL E. SMITH, D.D.S.

Dental Clinician.



# -:- EDITORIAL -:-

WM. W. BELCHER, D.D.S., EDITOR

186 Alexander Street, Rochester, N.Y.

**ORAL HYGIENE** does not publish Society Announcements, Obituaries, Personals or Book Reviews. This policy is made necessary by the limited size and wide circulation of the magazine. -:- -:-

## THE MEDICAL PROFESSION HOUSECLEANING

The medical profession is doing a lot of housecleaning and doing it well. The Council of Education in 1905 and the Carnegie Foundation started things in this line by a scathing report on the medical schools and the need of many of them for better equipment and instructors. As a result of these efforts, 85 colleges have ceased to exist since 1904 and six discontinued last year. The tendency is for the stronger college to absorb the weaker one.

The American Medical Association is responsible for the creation of the Council on Medical Education and rating each school under ten general heads with 100 points to each head, a possible 1,000 points. The ten heads under which the data was arranged follows:

1. Showing of graduates before the state boards and other evidence of the training received.
2. Enforcement of a satisfactory preliminary educational requirement, granting of advanced standing and the character of records.
3. Character of curriculum, grading of courses, length of sessions, time allowed for matriculation and supervision.
4. Medical school buildings; light, heat, ventilation, cleanliness.
5. Laboratory facilities and instruction.
6. Dispensary facilities and instruction.
7. Hospital facilities and instruction, maternity work, autopsies, specialties.
8. Faculty, number and qualifications of trained teachers, full-time instructors, and assistants, especially of the laboratory branches, organization and extent of research work.
9. Extent to which the school is conducted for proper teaching the science of medicine rather than for the profit of the faculty directly or indirectly.
10. Possession and use made of libraries, museums, charts, stereopticons, etc.

Based on these ratings, four standards of medical schools were established:

1. Class A. Plus—Acceptable Medical Colleges.  
*Giving an acceptable four years' course.*
2. Class A.—Colleges lacking in certain respects but otherwise acceptable.  
*Giving a complete four years' course.*
3. Class B.—Colleges needing general improvements to be made acceptable.  
*Giving a complete four years' course.*
4. Class C.—Colleges requiring a complete reorganization to make them acceptable.

So keen is the struggle for standing, which is changed from year to year, that Drake University College of Medicine, Des Moines, Iowa, which included a dental department of the highest standing, voluntarily consolidated in 1913, with the State University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Drake University was in class A. and to maintain it at this standard would have required the expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars. Rather than accept a lower rating, it consolidated with the State University, which has a rating of A. plus.

There are 28 University schools and 16 states have no other school, but the one connected with the State University.

The Class A. plus schools total 29 of which 15 are in the West, 9 in the East and 5 in the South.

The East has 9 Class A. plus; 13 Class A.; 1 Class B., and 2 Class C. schools.

The West has 15 Class A. plus; 11 Class A.; 11 Class B., and 13 Class C. schools.

The South has 5 Class A. plus; 15 Class A., 10 Class B., and 5 Class C. schools.

The number of medical students 1914, was 16,502, this was 513 less than in 1913, 1910 less than the year before and 11,640 less than the year 1904.

The total number of graduates in 1914, were 3,594, against 5,747 in 1904.

Seventy-five percent were graduates of Class A. plus or Class A. schools and 22.5 hold degrees in the arts and science.

Entrance requirements are advancing and this year 86 medical colleges require at least one year of college work in physics, chemistry, biology and a knowledge of latin or a modern language. 39 schools require two years of college work, while John Hopkins, Cornell and Harvard, require a college degree before entrance. High water mark in the number of schools was reached in 1906, when there were 162.

At the present time there are 101, and the end is not yet. As this country has fully one-third of the world's supply of medical colleges, it would seem that further reduction might be desirable.

The college with the largest number of students is Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., with 648, this is a Class A. plus school. Closely following is the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery, with 638. This is a Class B. school. These are about the size of the largest dental school, the University of Pennsylvania which has nearly 600 students.

The medical schools are in receipt of endowments during the past year amounting to a grand total of \$16,966,750. These are for the construction of laboratories and medical buildings, hospitals and maintenance, research work and provide funds making it possible to place the faculty on a full time teaching basis. Cornell Medical School received the largest amount viz: \$4,000,000; Johns Hopkins, \$1,800,000; Vanderbilt, \$1,000,000; Yale, \$900,000. The Rockefeller Institute gave over \$4,000,000 of the total amount for the year and has already distributed \$12,500,000 to the cause of research work and higher medical education.

*The Journal of the American Medical Association* publishes an annual educational number in which the findings of the Council on Medical Education and the rating of each school is given. The issue of August 22nd, 1914, contained 31 pages devoted to this subject. The findings are without favor and the information is spread broadcast seeking the greatest publicity. Thus the medical profession is housecleaning and the result is a decidedly higher standard of education.

The requirements of the state examining boards, as outlined in the May number are far from uniform and vary from those in which no medical diploma is essential to those in which two year's college work, in addition to the medical degree is required.

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## THE MILLION DOLLAR PRIZE CONTEST

Have you sent in your ideas as to how we are to spend a Million Dollars for Oral Hygiene? Four prizes are offered viz: First prize, \$25; Second, \$15; Third, \$10, and a consolation prize of \$5.00 for the fourth best essay. The editor will send a credit slip good for dental supplies to the amount. The time limit is June 15th, and all letters must be dated not later than this to be considered by the awarding committee composed of Drs. Johnson, Hoff and Thorpe. The editor has received a goodly number of essays on this subject and

all are most excellent but no one has yet presented the one, grand scheme that appeals to him as most practical. Not that his ideas count in this contest as he is a rank outsider so far as determining the awards is concerned. When the manuscripts are all in and the time limit is passed they will be promptly forwarded to the committee and the majority determines the lucky one. If a hard headed business man had accumulated a million dollars which he desired to spend most advantageously for the benefit of humanity, what arguments would you present as to the worthiness of Oral Hygiene? How would you spend this money if he gave it to you in trust? What would you expect to accomplish and how would you go about it? Sit down now and write me what you would do with this money and I will tell the man. Remember the contest closes June 15th. Everything is all set and I have a new door mat that says "Welcome" to the man who delivers the mail.

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## THE PANAMA-PACIFIC DENTAL CONGRESS

Concealed somewhere in this number of the magazine you will find an application blank for membership. You are invited to fill out the same and forward to Dr. A. M. Flood, 240 Stockton Street, San Francisco, Cal.

By doing this you pledge yourself to pay \$10 in good and lawful money for full membership in the Congress, which entitles you to all the privileges and one copy of the printed transactions. If you send the money with the application you save additional postage, otherwise you are expected to make your remittance on or before August 30th, 1915.

If you attend the Exposition and Dental Congress, you surely want to become a member. If you expect to stay home, then you need the transactions and there you are. Outside of this, it is your duty to help support this meeting which has been in preparation for the past two years and will be the last word in dental advance and progress.

Have your certificate framed so your folks will know they are in the right office. The Congress needs the money and we should show our appreciation to the men who have labored so diligently to make the meeting a credit to the profession. "Don't be a Nitrous Oxide," send in the Ten and be an Oxygen!

# AN ADVERTISEMENT

In the February issue the editor called attention to the merits of the school poster and announced a new printing at a reduced price. Also it was stated that a cut of the same could be found in our advertising pages. The publishers promised to run an ad in the issue but it was conspicuous by its absence. Result: ever since I have been receiving inquiries as to where it could be obtained, and many letters contained real money ordering a supply. As stated before, I don't have a thing to do with the advertising pages of the magazine, but these posters are worth while, and at the new rate of a dollar a dozen, they are one big bargain and will help spread the oral hygiene propaganda all out of proportion to the money invested. I am told, samples will be sent for 5 cents, and that about covers the cost of mailing. As the publishers refuse to advertise their own goods in their section of the magazine, I insert a cut of the poster for your edification. This poster is in four colors. Twenty-seven inches long and fifteen inches wide. It is printed on good, heavy enameled paper, bound with brass at the top and bottom, with a brass ring at the center of the top so it may be hung in place with a minimum of effort. The only cheap thing about it is the price. Get the consent of your school officials to place a supply in all the primary and first grade rooms in your local schools. If the school officials will pay the cost I would encourage them to do so. If they haven't the funds or lack faith, offer to supply them with a sufficient number to place in each room. If you don't want to do this, place one in your office and a supply to give each one of your school teacher patients, who will make use of them. Order from the publishers of this magazine, whose name you will find on the cover or send to Lee S. Smith & Son Co., Educational Department, Keenan Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Clean mouths mean good teeth and no toothache**

**Good teeth and good chewing of your food means good health**

**Good health means good school work**

**Good school work means you do not have to stay in after school**

**Did you clean your teeth this morning?**

**Are you going to clean them at bed time to night?**

**Care of the Mouth**

To keep all cavities and have better health, clean every nook and food space in mouth as you have here. Clean your teeth every morning before breakfast and every night at bedtime. This has to be important. If you have any other tooth trouble, tell your dentist, and a complete check in the drug store. Brush your teeth, moving them up and down and brushing in and down, using the brush in well across the space of both jaws. Try to brush the inside of the upper surface of all the teeth. Then again your mouth and brush the inside surface. Your teeth should be as white as milk teeth and bright. Then rub the back and again the inside surface of all the teeth, being the brush across the roots. Then wash out your tongue and brush the top of it. You will not have your teeth in the morning clean and new. Before them good.

**Did you clean your teeth this morning?**

**So you do not have to stay in after school**

## NOTE AND COMMENT

Alaska has a dental law which became effective April 30, 1913, and created a dental board of examiners with power to issue licenses. Applicants must present a diploma from a reputable dental college and pay an examination fee of \$25. The annual license fee is \$4. Violations are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, through the Federal courts. This information comes through Charles Daggett, D.D.S., president Alaska Dental Association which was founded in 1914. In the State of Massachusetts anyone can be examined; in Alaska it's different.

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Millions of dollars are being expended in fighting tuberculosis. In New York State many counties have erected expensive buildings for the segregation and free treatment of sufferers from this disease. Just how many thousands are annually expended in this one State would require a trained accountant and comptometer to determine. The February issue of "Health News" gives a comparison of death rates from certain important causes. Tuberculosis (all forms) is rated for the year 1913 at 166.4 with a total of 16,152 deaths. The year 1914, 16,440 deaths and rate is given as 166.0.

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Dr. Harvey W. Wiley has an article in the March issue of Good Housekeeping on "The Importance of Mouth Hygiene to General Health." Also, he is giving talks before public audiences on this subject when the opportunity arises. For a man of his years, Dr. Wiley is full of ginger and makes his position as president of the National Mouth Hygiene Association something besides an ornament.

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Mr. Frank Ritter, who founded the business of the Ritter Dental Manufacturing Company, died at the age of 70 years at Rochester, N. Y., April 21, 1915. He was a man of sterling character and previous to his entrance in the dental field, manufactured furniture of a high grade. He lived to see the business he founded in a small way, an important factor in the dental trade and its product used in every country where dentistry is practiced.

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From a well-informed source it is stated that the total amount of gold employed in dentistry foots up to \$10,000,000 annually. There are three firms whose total sales are one-half of this amount, one of them doing a business of \$2,000,000. This amount is lost to the arts and sciences and forms an important part of the annual production.

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The Rochester Dental Society has been awarded \$4,000 by the municipality to conduct the dental dispensaries under their jurisdiction for the coming year. This amount is handed over to the treasurer of the dispensary committee and the spending of the same is left entirely to the society. This amount in addition to the public subscriptions will allow an important increase in the work. A number of philanthropic citizens stand ready to furnish equipment for their favorite school if the society will agree to maintain the same. As a result of their careful management for the past ten years, the municipality and private citizen have full confidence in the work of the society and that every dollar placed in their hands will do double duty. A committee of the society recently made a visit to Boston, Bridgeport and Philadelphia in search of ideas.

Tommy Atkins demands not only the essentials but also the comforts and as a result he is furnished a plentiful supply of mouth organs and even whistles. The army officials have found these simple things an essential in making the men more contented with their trying positions in wet trenches and under constant fire. The habit of chewing gum originated in America, but it has long ago passed the national boundaries and during the past five years has spread enormously in foreign countries. It was dispensed as a regular ration in the Greek army in their recent war with Turkey. The Greeks who returned from America to fight for their native land carried chewing gum with them and found it such a comfort amid the hardships of warfare that other soldiers asked for it. No chewing gum could be had in Greece and so persistent were the demands, that the Queen cabled to a Greek newspaper in New York asking that a shipment of it be forwarded to the troops. The editor could not understand and cabled back for explanation. The order was confirmed and a supply promptly forwarded with the compliments of an American firm. Her Majesty, Queen Sophia of Greece, through her lady in waiting, sent a note of thanks, ending with, "Her Majesty fully appreciates your promptitude to offer such a liberal quantity of an article so useful to our soldiers in the field." We use some gum ourselves. The United Cigar Stores Company report their sales of chewing gum for 1913 as amounting to \$300,000.

The West Virginia State Dental Society program for 1915 is some class. Inscribed under the heading "Membership," we find the following as the slogan of the year:

"Be a rabbit;  
Get the habit;  
Get together;  
Multiply."

"If you know your neighbor in the lobby, shake hands. If you don't know him shake anyhow. There's no 'inner circle.' 'Butt in.' Make yourself known in meetin' and out. Don't be backward. The 'backward' dentist don't believe in dental societies. That's why he's backward. He stayed at home.

"Get the 'rabbit habit' now. Don't wait. Do a little missionary work, not solely for the society, but also for the other fellow. He may not know. The fewer 'backward' dentists we have in the State of West Virginia, the better for the profession and the public."

Dr. Burt Ogburn, Phoenix, Arizona, sends a copy of a magazine published by the local Indian school, containing a full page illustration of an attractive Indian maiden with a toothbrush and good advice on the care of the teeth. The doctor is employed in the State Hospital for the Insane and finds the majority of the inmates ideal patients. One applicant for professional services presented himself with a single, loose tooth, but doubted the advisability of its removal as it was set with aqua fortis. He was informed that a recent chemical discovery made this an easy matter. He consented to the extraction and asked the composition of the "solvent." He was told that it was the result of years of study and labor and could not be imparted to him and he was well satisfied. All of which goes to prove the dentist in charge is some little diplomat.





# HERE'S A NEW ONE



We want good clean humor for this page and are willing to pay for it. Send me the story that appeals to you as "funny" and if I can use it, you will receive a check on publication—Address EDITOR, 186 Alexander St., Rochester, N. Y.

"Are you sure that this suit won't shrink?" "Mine friend, efery fire company in New York but two has squirted water on det suit."—N. J. S., New York.

A boy of eight years had just returned from the dentist and was telling his father his experiences. While there he had noticed a jar of cotton rolls in the operating room and thought it was candy.

Said he, "I saw a whole jar of candy but I suppose Dr. R. had that for good kids, for I didn't get any of it."—B. A. R., Kingwood, W. Va.

Little Mary was to sleep all by herself in her new room. Her fond mamma had reassured her that there was nothing to fear for God was right there with her all the time. She was tucked in her little bed and a few minutes after a faint voice came from the darkness: "Mother, dear, I wish you would come in here and get in bed with God and let me sleep with papa."—E. C. M., Greenpoint, Long Island, N. Y.

A chiropodist received a call from a woman stopping at the hotel and on being shown her room, found her in a kimono. "Will you promise to trim my corns and keep your mouth shut?" asked the woman. He assured her he would, but began to protest when she started to remove her kimono. "Lady, lady," he implored, "you mustn't do anything like that." "Listen to me," said the woman heatedly, "I've ridden all the way from Colorado in a Ford and I guess I know where my corns are better than you do."—J. A. D., Bolivar, Mo.

A painter falling from a ladder, covered himself and everything in sight with a vivid green paint. "What happened to the man?" asked a passing lady of the grinning newsboy. "Oh, the Irishman had a hemorrhage."

The teacher was discussing the question of neutrality, with her eye on a little fellow, she urged that each give personal attention to absolute neutrality. "Of course I'm neutral," he said; "I don't care which country licks the Germans."—H. C. N., Chicago, Ill.

A man purchased some red flannel shirts, guaranteed not to shrink. He reminded the salesman forcibly of the guarantee some weeks later.

"Have you had any difficulty with them?" the latter asked.

"Have I?" replied the customer. "Why the other morning when I was dressing, my wife said to me, 'John, where did you get that pink coral necklace?'"—S. L. C., Buffalo, N. Y.

Abe Johnson had been injured seriously and out of work for months after his discharge from the hospital. Meeting a friend one day, the following dialogue ensued:

"Say, Abe, what's been de matta wid yuh, anyhow? How cum yo all couldn't get a job?"

"Well, Mose, when dat truck hit me, it fixed me so dat ah only sees double and none of de bosses needs a man who sees double. But ah got a job what pays fine."

"What's dat?" "Readin' meters fo de Gas an' 'Lectric Company."—C. M. B., Denver, Colo.